

## **Autobiographical Incident (Personal Narrative)**

**An autobiographical incident is a story about ONE specific experience or event in your life. It uses vivid sensory details to teach the reader about YOU. Your story should focus on one moment in time. Your voice is natural and honest, allowing your reader to experience and share your feelings during the event.**

### **Steps in the Writing Process**

1. Identify an incident (event occurring over a relatively short period of time). Write a sentence or two briefly telling about the incident.
2. In one sentence, tell why this incident was significant to you.
3. Recall the scene - who was there, where did it occur, what did you hear, see, smell, etc. at the scene. Describe it so that others would feel they were there.
4. Outline the sequence of events: What happened 1st, 2nd, 3rd?
5. What were your feelings at the time of the incident? What are your thoughts today?
6. Why is this experience/event important to you? How has your life changed as a result of this incident?
7. Put these ideas aside and begin your first draft.

## **Brainstorming Tips:**

Timeline: <http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/timeline/>

Graphic Map: <http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/graphicmap/>

Model Essay: <http://go.hrw.com/eolang/modbank/mbank/mb6-1.htm>

Plot Diagram: <http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/plot-diagram/>

## **Writer's Guide:**

<http://go.hrw.com/eolang/modbank/mguide/mg6-1.htm>

**Requirements:** Describe your experience in detail, including figurative language and active verbs

**Rubric:**

[http://www.readwritethink.org/lesson\\_images/lesson14/RWta14-1.pdf](http://www.readwritethink.org/lesson_images/lesson14/RWta14-1.pdf)